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Parents Urged to Help Child With Handwriting

Active support of parents in a concerted effort to help set children on the correct path toward good and legible penmanship is urged as the opening of the new school term approaches.

The urge comes from the Handwriting Foundation, actively supported by business men as well as educators, in a renewal of a continuing crusade to encourage a greater awareness of the importance of handwriting in all walks of life. Almost unlimited instances of inconvenience, irritation and actual loss of time and vast sums of money in addition to obvious career handicaps, can be cited to stress the universal importance of good, clear handwriting.

Check Lower Grades

School papers written in long hand, though accurate and well phrased, sometimes suffer because teacher finds it difficult to decipher them. Lower grades result. Job opportunities sometimes are lost because of poor penmanship. Letters and packages go astray and telephone messages cannot be deciphered.

The Handwriting Foundation goes beyond the point of urging awareness of the problem. It has a scholarship program available to assist hard working teachers who bear down on the matter. It publishes a booklet entitled the "Second R." in which six simple steps to legible writing—principles that will be useful to parents

as well as the children—are set forth.

A Family Project

Parents can help their school age children by following through at home in support of teachers who stress instruction in handwriting.

A good plan is to make it an informal family project, utilizing the booklet which is available free by writing the Handwriting Foundation.

Foundation Surveys have shown that the best way to improve handwriting quickly—and most everyone can do this—is to write slowly. Fast scrawls lead to trouble. Legibility is paramount. Individual style of writing can be maintained and should be.

It should always be remembered that someone else must be able to read what you have written.

Behind the Scenes

By REYNOLDS KNIGHT

The GI home loan program, which has been a tremendous factor in sustaining the postwar housing boom, has received an 18-month extension, even though the nominal closing date has only been moved up a year.

The new cutoff date of July 25, 1956, set a bill signed by President Eisenhower since the 84th Congress recessed, refers to applications for loans. The old cutoff date of July 25, 1957, referred to completion of loan commitments. Multiple builders, who are the chief sellers of housing under such loans, said this would have compelled them to start no more new homes destined for GI occupation after next January.

An even longer added life has been given FHA lending for home repairs, scheduled to end Sep. 30, 1956. This was extended, in the bill just signed, to Sep. 30, 1959, and the old limit on loans raised to \$3500 from \$2500. Also, repayment can be stretched over five years instead of three.

The 4 per cent ceiling put on the last \$1000 lent under the program may impede the granting of loans in some areas. Where the money can be had, a \$3500 loan, sufficient to rebuild nearly any old house of medium size, can be paid off

for a little more than \$70 a month—a bargain for those of us past the GI age bracket whose homes were built in the last big boom of 1923 to 1926.

DRUG BUSINESS BOOMS

The big increase in the sale of pharmaceuticals, which astonished the business world a few years ago, is gaining new speed rather than slowing down as some observers had forecast. The wonder drugs of yesterday are giving place to or being reinforced by even newer wonder drugs.

Companies are further expanding facilities, to keep up with the public demand for these products. Schenley Laboratories, for example, recently announced that it had decided to double its present production and advertising programs, and also to double its sales force.

These increases in advertising and promotion will become general or Schenley executive predicted. He said: "These aren't the last expansions, either. Our business is one of the fastest growing in the country today. There seems to be no end to the new products that come from our laboratories, or to the public's demand for them."

THINGS TO COME—An English company has built a blow-up rubber hut for campers. It weighs 160 pounds, sleeps 30 men . . . An imported mousetrap's vendors boast that it always catches the mouse, never nips the trapper's fingers . . . Cartons of soap will soon come with measuring dispensers, to keep you from getting too much in the dishpan . . . A pocket-sized German gear counter is linked to an amplifier to make its weak clicks audible.

CROP-HANDLING FEAT—What would the oil industry do if it had to take its entire annual needs from the ground during one or two brief periods each year? Where could storage be found? What could be done to head off wide price fluctuations? How would distributors go about seeing that

consumers' demands, which vary very little, were met in all seasons?

These difficult problems are solved every year by the private grain trade. Even with the additional complication of vast surpluses of all types of grain, the trade's network of country elevators, great terminal elevators, and transportation and merchandising facilities, handles the annual glut and efficiently serves national and world markets.

Cargill, Inc., the nation's largest grain firm reported recently that wheat was flowing into Chicago, where the company operates a seventeen-million-bushel elevator, at the rate of a million bushels a day. It came by rail, truck and barge, for later use all year in our daily bread. Even at this rate, equal to a train of rail-steady and immediate market for the crop was maintained.

STEEL'S GOOD NEWS—Last week's price increase of \$8.50 per ton in steel was less than some very well informed students of the industry had expected, and to that extent was good news.

Some of the nearby customers of the small companies, who raised their prices as much as \$12 a ton, were talking about cutbacks to the line set by U.S. Steel Corp. This must happen sometime, of course, in a competitive industry.

However, some of the little fellows, counting on the 100 per cent operation that will be necessary for four or five months to restore balanced inventories, are said to be thinking of holding the higher price for a while. They think they can get a premium from needy customers.

BITS O' BUSINESS—It may be plenty warm where you are but the price of DDT in drums went down two cents a pound last week, so autumn is near . . . Bituminous coal output for the week ending July 28 was 425,000 tons. The year-to-year gain in production passed the 37-million-ton mark.

ALL REPORTS REQUIRED IN ACCIDENTS

Be sure all required reports are made out if you are involved in a traffic accident, warns the California Highway Patrol.

"The law requires all injury and fatal traffic accidents in rural areas to be reported to the California Highway Patrol," declared Patrol Commissioner B. R. Caldwell. "Such traffic accidents that occur in incorporated cities are to be reported to the local police department."

"Last year the Patrol processed 198,206 traffic accident reports including some property damage accident reports and, many times, these reports lacked vital information due to failure to file a proper report," Caldwell continued. "The financial responsibility report in addition to the police reports mentioned here and is to be sent to the Department of Motor Vehicles."

"Report forms and assistance in filling out the forms are available at any Patrol office," he said. "The Patrol tabulates these reports for use in the accident prevention efforts of enforcement agencies, highway engineers and educators."



"To be sorry for your mistakes is good—to say so is better!"

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Good Breakfast Makes Healthy Foundation for School Each Day

With the return of school days, that always-important meal, breakfast, plays an even more vital role in daily nutrition. It is the "foundation meal" of the day, and on it may depend not only the success of each school day but also the good health of youngsters in later life.

Since lunch is usually eaten away from home, only the morning and evening meals remain under Mother's complete supervision, and she should make a special effort to see that they supply the right nutritional elements, in proper balance.

Breakfast should provide one-fourth to one-third of the daily food requirements, and if it is skipped or skimmed, children and even adults, too, find it difficult to make up at other meals for the missed nutrients.

To be sure the proper nutrients are supplied, breakfast menus should be planned to include these basics: fruit or fruit juice, hot or ready-to-eat cereal, whole grain or enriched bread with butter or margarine, and milk. Eggs, bacon, fish or cheese supply additional protein.

Including a good breakfast

Good eating habits start with breakfast, so this should be a family meal, with the adults getting a good nutritional beginning to their own day and also showing the children by example that it's fun to enjoy a good breakfast.

for school youngsters—and other members of the family—need not be a difficult or time-consuming task for Mother, if she takes advantage of the many canned, frozen, and packaged breads, juices, meats and fruits.

These easy-to-fix products will help her, too, in providing the special treats and food variety that are important as ways of encouraging children to eat a better breakfast.

Brightening up the morning meal can be as simple as pouring out glasses of cranberry juice, for a change from such standbys as orange or tomato juice. Mixing cranberry and orange or grapefruit juice half-and-half creates another breakfast treat, with little effort.

The morning meal is also Mother's opportunity to see that children drink that first glass of milk for the day. Serving the milk in the form of a chocolate drink makes breakfast something to look forward to.

Starting Good Habits

Good eating habits start with breakfast, so this should be a family meal, with the adults getting a good nutritional beginning to their own day and also showing the children by example that it's fun to enjoy a good breakfast.

"you're so right. We always go S.P."

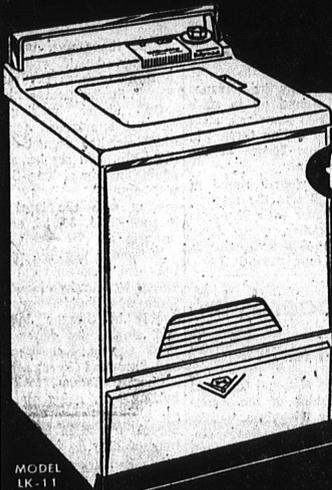


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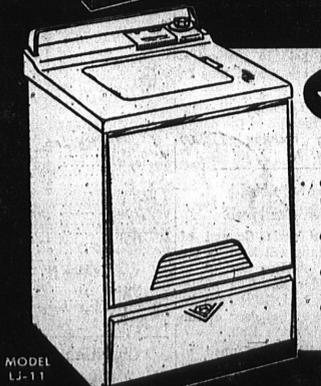
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- Deluxe Agitator creates vigorous, yet gentle water action.

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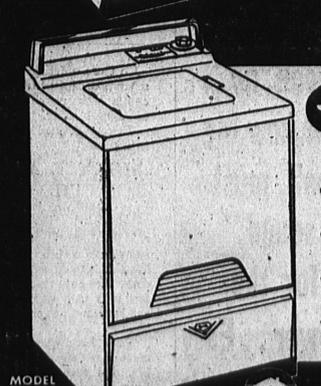
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